

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LAHONTAN REGION**

**BOARD ORDER NO. R6V-2004-0019
WDID NO. 6B158020014**

**RESCISSION OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
BOARD ORDER 6-98-26
FOR**

CACTUS GOLD MINES COMPANY, SHUMAKE PROJECT

Kern County

The California Regional Water Quality control Board, Lahontan Region (Regional Board) finds:

1. Discharger

Cactus Gold Mines Company (Cactus) and Middle Buttes Partners Ltd. (MBPL) own and formerly operated the Shumake Project Mine. Mining waste was formerly discharged to lined waste piles and surface impoundments which are located on public land administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (Landowner). For the purpose of this Regional Board Order (Order), Cactus, MBPL and the Landowner are collectively referred to as the “Discharger.”

2. Facility

For the purposes of this Order, the Shumake Project Mine is referred to as the “Facility.” The Facility is located approximately nine miles southwest of Mojave in the Willow Springs Hydrologic Area of the Antelope Hydrologic Unit within Sections 8 and 17, T10N, R13W, SBB&M.

3. Waste Discharge Requirements

Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for the Facility were established pursuant to Board Order No. 6-88-46, adopted April 14, 1988 as amended by Board Order No. 6-88-46A1, adopted February 10, 1994. Revised WDRs were adopted on May 7, 1998 by Board Order No. 6-98-26 including implementation of closure activities at the site.

4. Reasons for Action

The Discharger has removed solid residual waste from the surface impoundments (SIs) to a legal facility. The Discharger has closed the SIs, punctured the SI liners and completed confirmation sampling of soil beneath the former SIs. These activities were performed in accordance with closure and post closure maintenance plans, and were documented in a Final Closure and Post Closure Report certified by a California Licensed Civil Engineer. The Regional Board staff has verified through site inspection and review of submitted information, the completion of necessary closure activities.

The Discharger has completed detoxification sampling of ore on the leach pads. Data collected during the Post Closure Maintenance period confirms successful detoxification of the ore on the leach pad/landfill in accordance with numerical limits set forth in Board Order No. 6-98-26. Closure activities have been completed and data demonstrate that site conditions are protective of water quality. As such it is appropriate to rescind WDRs.

5. California Environmental Quality Act Compliance

This action is being taken by the Regional Board to rescind WDRs issued pursuant to the California Water Code and as such is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section 2100 et seq.) in accordance with Section 15321(a)(2), Title 14, California Code of Regulations.

6. Public Notification

The Regional Board has notified the discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to rescind WDRs for the Facility. The Regional Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the rescission of these WDRs.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Board Order No. 6-98-26 be rescinded.

I, Harold J. Singer, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality control Board, Lahontan Region, on June 9, 2004.

HAROLD J. SINGER
EXECUTIVE OFFICER